

Inside this issue:

Message from the Mayor	1
Keeping School Areas Safe	2
Upcoming Household Hazardous Waste and Electronics Recycling Events	2
Replacing and Revitalizing Oak Hill	3
Citywide Leaf Collection Begins Monday, October 31	3
District Activities	4
Community News	4
Upcoming Events	4

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF
THE MAYOR

John A. Wilson Building
1350 Penn. Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20004
Phone: (202) 727-2980
Fax: (202) 727-6561
<http://dc.gov>

Message from the Mayor

I'd like to take this opportunity to personally thank those of you who quickly stepped up to help our fellow citizens from the Gulf Coast who suffered as a result of Hurricane Katrina. On September 6, as I welcomed evacuees to the DC Armory, I witnessed firsthand the pain and heartbreak on the faces of people who endured so much and were left with so little. At the same time, I saw the faces of people from the District government and elsewhere who responded with compassion - determined to turn pain and heartbreak into relief and opportunity.

This tragedy has taught us the immeasurable value of partnerships - I can't begin to list all of our partners volunteering at the DC Armory or even answering phones at the Mayor's Call Center. It's an inspiration to me that government, non-profits, the private sector, the faith community and others rallied so strongly to contribute to our relief effort. It's truly a symbol of what we can accomplish when we put our minds, hearts and hands together toward one common goal.

In particular, I'd like to thank the approximately 40 District government volunteers who traveled via bus to New Orleans. All of them deserve our heartfelt appreciation for a job well done. They responded quickly and vigorously to help those who survived the hurricane. In myriad ways during their trip, they helped bring relief to people in pain. To me, their generous spirit brings to mind words of the great humanitarian, Mahatma Gandhi, who once said, "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others."

Today, our effort continues to help our friends from New Orleans. Last week, evacuees at the DC Armory received free tickets to attend a Washington Nationals game across the parking lot at RFK stadium across from the DC Armory. As we try to make the evacuees as comfortable as possible, the Washington Nationals have generously contributed tickets for any of the evacuees who wish to attend baseball games.

We're also working to provide a range of services for the evacuees, including rental assistance, counseling, employment services, health care services, school for children and youth services, help in finding missing relatives, general relocation information, mental health services, and basic needs such as new clothes and food. The DC Armory is also equipped with numerous free phone lines for the evacuees, televisions and reading material.

People who wish to make donations should call the American Red Cross 1-800-HELP-NOW or visit dc.gov for a list of additional organizations accepting donations.



AGENCY WEBSITES

Department of Human
Services

Office of Tax and Revenue

Department of Parks and
Recreation

Department of Employment
Services

Metropolitan Police
Department

Office of Boards and
Commissions

Commission on the Arts and
Humanities

LINKS TO OTHER WEBSITES

Hands on DC

DC Convention and Tourism

DC Public Library

Keeping School Areas Safe

Our school year is in full swing as we ensure the safety of our students across the city.

I'm pleased that we're redoubling our efforts to crack down on motorists who violate traffic laws in school zones as District students return to school. Our Metropolitan Police Department (MPD), is targeting motorists in school zones. MPD is issuing tickets for speeding, running stop signs, blocking crosswalks, failing to stop for pedestrians in crosswalks, as well as for seatbelt and child restraint violations.

Vehicles hit more than 200 children annually and this program aims to lower the persistent pedestrian fatality and injury problem by alerting motorists to the role they play in pedestrian safety.

A child is no match for a motor vehicle, especially one that is speeding. A child hit at 40 mph has only a 15 percent chance of survival, while a child hit at 20 mph has an 85 percent of surviving the crash. Our goal is to send a strong message that we will not tolerate speeding, running stop signs, failing to stop for pedestrians in crosswalks, or passing school buses that are loading or unloading children. Only a moment of inattention or distraction can claim the life of a child, our most vulnerable pedestrians.

This is the second pedestrian enforcement effort of 2005. The first effort coincided with the regional Street Smart traffic safety campaign in June. The annual Street Smart Campaign includes radio and transit advertisements promoting safe behavior for pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists.

Upcoming Household Hazardous Waste and Electronics Recycling Events

It's that time of year again—time for residents to gather the hazardous waste and household electronics that need proper disposal.

The District Department of Public Works (DPW) will hold its fall household hazardous waste and electronics recycling drop-off collection on two dates and in two different city locations. On May 14, I attended the spring collection event (I even brought a few old electronic gadgets to recycle) and I encourage residents across the city to do the same next month.

The first fall Household Hazardous Waste/E-Cycling Collection will be held on Saturday, October 22 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Carter Barron Amphitheatre parking lot at 16th and Kennedy Streets, NW. The second event will be held on Saturday, November 12 at the District's newly renovated Trash Transfer Station at 3200 Benning Road, NE, also from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. These services are free and open to all District residents.

Household hazards include old cleaning and gardening chemicals, pesticides and poisons, acids, varnish, oil-based paints, solvents, aerosols, wood preservatives, spent batteries of all kinds, roofing tar, chemistry sets, automotive fluids, even asbestos floor tiles.

DPW will also have an electronics recycling station to receive end-of-life televisions, office and audio equipment, computers, computer parts and accessories. All computer monitors and TV screens must be intact, not cracked, punctured or shattered. During processing, the electronics are broken down into component parts, precious as well as toxic metals are extracted, and then the various materials are recycled or disposed of safely.

In 2002, we collected 10 tons of end-of-life electronics. In 2003, it was up to 66 tons. In 2004, we recovered 147 tons of electronics. This year, we should collect more than 200 tons.

Residents who have old or unneeded recycling bins or "Clean City" cans can also bring those to the HHW/E-Cycling drop-off. For more information on household hazardous waste, I encourage citizens to visit the [DPW website](#).



BRC Alerts

DCLMPC Partnership
Works!

DCOA Spotlight on Aging

DHS Outreach

DISB DC Financial
Gateway Express

OAG Inter Alia...

OAPIA Updates

OPGD Grant Funding
Alerts

Replacing and Revitalizing Oak Hill

I'm pleased to report that we're in the midst of an exciting plan to replace and revitalize the District's Oak Hill Youth Center in Laurel, Maryland.

At a press conference last week at Oak Hill, I announced the future plans for the Youth Center, which is the District's juvenile justice facility. Plans include designing and constructing a new smaller and more rehabilitative facility that will house 36 beds (three 12-bed units) and renovating another facility that will house 24 beds (two 12-bed units).

The new capacity for committed (sentenced) youth will be 60 beds. Currently there are 78 committed youth at the Oak Hill Youth Center. The remaining youths will be placed into a model continuum of care that the Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services (DYRS) is currently developing and procuring.

Our goal is to make real improvements in the ways that we care for, evaluate and rehabilitate troubled young people. We must provide the best facility within our means - one that helps our young people become good citizens. Our plans are for a new secure facility that will be more efficient and more effective - and I'm looking forward to putting a shovel in the ground for that new facility.

The facility that replaces Oak Hill will be more home-like and less institutional - a design that is consistent with "The Missouri Model." That state is one of the nation's leaders in juvenile justice reform. One aspect of The Missouri Model is placing youth in smaller settings where staff can cultivate positive behavior. Studies have shown placing large numbers of youth in large locked facilities produce the most violent, negative and hostile youth.

Not only are we building a new facility, but we plan on operating these facilities in a radically new fashion. The facility that replaces Oak Hill will avoid some of the harsher aspects of large prison-like facilities like Oak Hill and will allow for the kind of individualized programming that is the key to success.

In recent years, Oak Hill has become everything that we don't want: too many of our city's youth brought there with too little direction. Too much government inefficiency and too few results. But creating healthy youth in our city means taking novel ideas and turning them into reality. It means forming a lasting partnership among parents, non-profits, the federal government, the private sector - and the District government. For the youth who do come to Oak Hill, we must provide the best facility within our means.

Our goal is to create a rigorous and effective "continuum of care" that includes community-based programs that closely supervise our troubled young people. And, we must provide an adequately-sized secure facility.

This means supervising our young people, supporting them, educating them, giving them the skills they need to thrive and giving them alternatives to violence. Already, in the past year, our efforts are paying off in the District. Serious juvenile crime is down 26 percent compared to the same time last year - and youth homicides are down 50 percent.

As I've been saying for more than a year, and as my own Blue Ribbon Commission recommended, it's my goal for us to make real improvements to the ways in which we care for, evaluate, and rehabilitate troubled youth in our city.

Citywide Leaf Collection Begins Monday, October 31

Soon, thousands of trees in the District's residential areas will begin the yearly process of dropping their leaves into yards and onto houses, driveways, sidewalks and cars. As part of its annual operations, the Department of Public Works (DPW) deploys personnel with leaf vacs and leaf blowers, packer trucks, dump trucks and roll-offs to tackle the daunting job of removing tons of leaves from public space.

This year, the leaf collection effort lasts from October 31, 2005 through January 7, 2006 and is expected to pick up over 10,000 tons of dead leaves.

A brochure containing the detailed leaf collection schedule will be mailed to households across the District to give residents ample time to plan for leaf season.

Property owners and residents should clear leaves from their own property and bring them out to the curb. For more efficient collection of leaves, each ward has been divided into collection zones. DPW will use large machines to vacuum loose piles of leaves from curbside tree boxes on each street, in each zone, at least twice. Additionally, residents may set out bagged leaves with their regular trash at curbside and alley collection sites. However, bagged leaves may take longer to collect.

For more information about leaf collection and disposal, visit the DPW website at dpw.dc.gov and click on "Seasonal Leaf Collection."



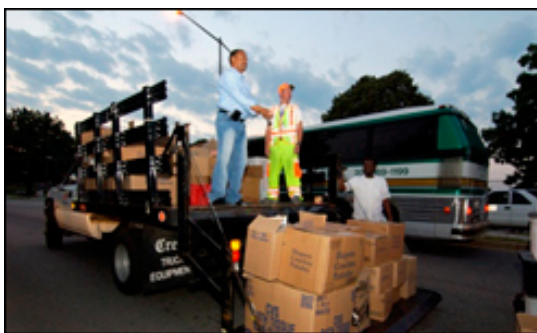
District Activities



Mayor Williams visited Hurricane Katrina evacuees at the DC Armory to announce free tickets to attend Washington Nationals games across the parking lot at RFK stadium. US Senator Sam Brownback and Councilmember Marion Barry were also present and toured the facilities.



Mayor Williams and Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services Director Schiraldi announce plans for Oak Hill Youth Center at a press conference in Laurel, Maryland.



District volunteers load supplies onto a bus headed to New Orleans to provide relief to hurricane victims.

Community News

- [How You Can Help: Find Out How to Assist Katrina Evacuees](#)
- [Study Cites District as National Leader in Reducing Alcohol-Related Traffic Deaths](#)
- [District Department of Transportation Kicks Off \\$100 Million Great Streets Program](#)

Upcoming Events

[View All News Releases](#)

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 9/17 | Public Meeting—Comprehensive Housing Strategy Task Force
10 am – 12:30 pm
Thurgood Marshall Academy auditorium
2427 Martin Luther King Ave, SE |
| 10/22 | Household Hazardous Waste/E-Cycling Collection
9 am – 3 pm
Carter Barron Amphitheatre parking lot
16th and Kennedy Streets, NW |
| 11/12 | Household Hazardous Waste/E-Cycling Collection
9 am – 3 pm
Trash Transfer Station
3200 Benning Road, NE |

